## Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

October 19, 2023

The Honorable Chuck Schumer Majority Leader United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510 The Honorable Mitch McConnell Minority Leader United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

Leader Schumer and Leader McConnell:

We write to express our strong opposition to combining aid for Israel with additional aid for Ukraine and the Southern border.

As you know, on Oct. 7, Hamas terrorists launched a savage attack on Israel over the Jewish holiday of Sukkot. Over 1,400 civilians were killed, women and children were raped, infants were beheaded, and Americans were taken hostage. The world watched in horror as these barbarians unleashed widespread terror on innocent Israeli civilians. Americans understand Israel is our strongest ally in the Middle East, and we stand by Israelis' right to defend themselves. They need our support and they need it urgently.

Unfortunately, reports indicate President Biden will request a \$100 billion package, to include \$60 billion for Ukraine and just \$10 billion for Israel with the remaining funds supposedly intended to address the crisis at our Southern border and for other national security priorities.

While we support the people of Ukraine in their fight against Russian aggression, distinguishing aid between the two countries is critical. The U.S. has already allocated over \$110 billion in taxpayer dollars to Ukraine. We cannot endlessly fund a war that is heading into its third year.

Furthermore, we have consistently called for increased border protections. Congress must act to secure our borders, which means providing sufficient funding to support our Border Patrol, building a border wall, and improving immigration processes for law-abiding individuals. We cannot, however, fund the Biden administration's failed approach to immigration policy.

All of these issues are important enough to members of Congress that they can and should be addressed individually. Combining funding for these priorities risks miring them in an unnecessary political fight that will cause unwarranted delay, particularly in the distribution of funds in support of Israel.

As our partners in Congress, we encourage the U.S. Senate to reject President Biden's misguided attempt to force through aid for Ukraine by tying it to support for the Jewish people and our nation's security.

Sincerely,

Tim Burchett

Member of Congress

Mike Collins

Member of Congress

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Mike Garcia

Member of Congress

Matt Rosendale Member of Congress